



**Town of Bristol**  
Town Administrator  
1 South Street  
P.O. Box 249  
Bristol, VT 05443  
(802) 453-2410 ext. 1  
townadmin@bristolvt.org  
www.bristolvt.org

September 15, 2020

\*\* HAND DELIVERED \*\*

Travis Manning  
91 Vincent Drive  
Bristol, VT 05443

Subject: Selectboard Public Hearing Order

Dear Mr. Manning:

The Selectboard of the Town of Bristol conducted a hearing on September 14, 2020 in response to the two new and different written complaints about your dogs running at large, going through trash, aggressive behavior, and destruction of property, including the killing of chickens on Lower Notch Road. A separate complaint was received that the dogs exhibit signs of neglect. The Town sent you notice of the hearing by certified letter dated September 9, 2020. Although receipt was acknowledged, the Town received no other response to the September 9, 2020 notice. You did not appear in person or through a representative at the Selectboard hearing on September 14, 2020.

Findings

1. Following notification to you by certified mail, the Selectboard conducted a hearing on June 10, 2019, in response to the written complaint from Matt Baron alleging numerous accounts that your dogs were running at large, going through trash, and exhibiting threatening behavior. There was also no record of any dogs registered to you or at your address. The Selectboard at that time ordered that your dogs be registered immediately at the Town Clerk's Office and no later than the week of June 17, 2019. The Selectboard also ordered that your dogs be confined to your premises (when not otherwise under your control elsewhere), whether by leads, fencing, or some other effective means.
2. Contrary to the Selectboard's order of June 17, 2019, you did not register the dogs as directed. You have also failed to register the dogs for 2020 as required by 20 V.S.A. §3581 and the Bristol Dog Ordinance.
3. Two new and different written complaints have been received this year about your dogs running at large, going through trash, aggressive behavior, and destruction of property, including the killing of chickens on Lower Notch Road. A separate complaint was received that the dogs exhibit signs of neglect.

4. On August 30, 2020, Police Chief Bruce Nason contacted you in person at your premises and issued citations to you for failure to license the dogs and provided the opportunity to pay the waiver fee. He also provided you with copies of last year's correspondences and the Bristol Dog Ordinance.
5. To date, the dogs remain unregistered and the citations have not been paid. The complaint regarding neglect remains under investigation.
6. Amber Barrows identified your dogs as being the same that killed eight of her laying chickens earlier this year. The Selectboard determined that her request the chickens be replaced is a civil matter.

Order

**The Selectboard ordered that you must register all of your dogs immediately at the Town Clerk's Office and that you pay all fines in full to the Town of Bristol no later than Friday, September 18, 2020, 12:00pm noon.** An appointment can be made to register the dogs and pay the citations by calling the Town Office at 453-2410 ext. 5.

Should you fail to comply with these directives, the Selectboard has ordered that an officer of the Town seize your dogs and transfer possession and control of them to Homeward Bound Humane Society in Middlebury, Vermont for the purposes of finding them a new adoptive home.

Please contact me at 453-2410 or [townadmin@bristolvt.org](mailto:townadmin@bristolvt.org) or Police Chief Bruce Nason at 453-2533 or [bruce-nason@vermont.gov](mailto:bruce-nason@vermont.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Valerie Capels  
Town Administrator

C: Cale Pelland, Dog Warden  
Sharon Lucia, Town Clerk  
Bruce Nason, Police Chief  
Selectboard  
Complainants